

The University of Dublin

Trinity College

Minutes of the College Safety Committee Meeting, 10 January 2007

(Re-convening the meeting that was adjourned on Dec. 15 2006)

Present Vice Provost (Prof. R. Byrne), Mrs. Ingrid Hook, Ms. E Lee, Mr T Kearney, Dr. M. Bridge, Mr. P. Nowlan, Dr. R. Russell, Dr. D. McGrath, Mr. B. Garrahan, Mr. N. Leddy, Mr. P. Laird, Mr P. Mangan, Mr. P. Mc Donnell , Mr. T. Merriman.

Apologies Dr L Bradley, Mr. G. Lyons, Mr D Buggy

The business that was deferred from the adjourned meeting of Dec. 15 2006 was continued at a reconvened meeting on 10 Jan 2006. It was decided to review item 3 on the agenda because of a serious flooding incident that had since occurred in the Panoz Building and other developments relating to the fire.

SA/ 06-07/05 Report on Fire in the Pharmacy Building

The Vice-Provost reported that she had written to the Bursar, College Secretary and the Director of Buildings indicating her concerns following the report of the Fire/Safety Officer at the last meeting. She had also received a letter from Mrs. Hook following on from a flood that occurred on the 4th/5th Jan 2007 expressing the School's disquiet and concern about recent events and requesting that the integrity and infrastructure of the buildings be assessed by an external consultant. The Vice-Provost indicated that these would be considered at the next meeting of the Site and Facilities Committee.

Dr. Russell suggested that ventilation in the Biological Laboratory needs to be investigated.

The Director of Buildings highlighted the need for clear protocols to be set for the operation and management of buildings and that risks can be reduced by good local management and housekeeping.

The Deputy Director of Buildings confirmed that the architects for the building and the Fire Safety Consultant had been requested to review fire safety in the building and that he expected to be able to report progress at the next committee meeting.

SA/ 06-07/06 Hazardous Materials Facility

The College Safety Officer requested that a clear decision on the future of the Hazardous Materials Facility be made. The Director of Buildings suggested that any decision need to be detached from any review of the buildings carried out in

relation to their fire safety. The Vice-Provost noted the argument made by Prof Humphries at the meeting of Dec 15th that concerns about the safety of the HMF related in part to the two fires experienced in the building. A decision on the future of the HMF must take into account the results of the review of the building.

There were many contributions from the committee members setting out the history of the Facility and the many controls that had been put in place to minimise any risk. The Facility had been inspected by our insurers and Dublin Fire Brigade had been given all relevant information about it.

The Vice-Provost will meet with the College Secretary and others to explore options for the future of the Hazardous Materials Facility and will report back to the Committee on the way forward.

SA/ 06-07/07 Traffic Management Proposals 2006-2007

The document, already circulated to the College Safety Committee, had been approved by the Site and Facilities committee and it was before this committee for noting and support.

Mr. Laird requested that any new ramps should be designed to accommodate cyclists as the ramps currently in use are a hazard for cyclists. This will be conveyed to the Facilities Officer.

The proposals were endorsed by the committee.

SA/ 06-07/08 Review of the Terms of Reference of the College Safety Committee

The Vice-Provost reported that the Audit Committee had initiated a review of all Board Committees and that the College Safety Committee has to review its Terms of Reference. There were no suggestions for changes to these terms from the members and the Vice-Provost recommended that the review be deferred until the restructuring of Faculty Safety Committees is agreed.

SA/ 06-07/09 Annual Report of the College Safety Officer (2005-2006)

The College Safety Officer gave a summary of his Annual Report that had already been circulated to members.

Dr. Russell, referring back to the terms of reference, stated that there needs to be a financial commitment from Board to safety. The Vice-Provost responded that it was the committee's function to advise Board of financial needs and its responsibilities.

Dr. Russell also requested that an analysis of accidents be included with the report.

The Committee agreed that the report, including an explicit statement of costing for Health and Safety works with a prioritised listing of works and a summary analysis of accidents, should be sent to Board.

SA/ 06-07/10 Annual report of the College Safety Committee (2005-2006)

The College Safety Officer gave a summary of the Annual Report of the College Safety Committee that had already been circulated to members.

The committee agreed that it would wait until the February meeting to send this to Board when it can be accompanied by the updated Annual Report of the College Safety Officer.

Dr. Mc Grath suggested that we review progress on the issues highlighted in the report at the May meeting of the Committee.

SA/ 06-07/11 Restructuring of Safety Committees

Mr. Kearney highlighted the need to bring this issue to a conclusion. The Vice-Provost reported that the Board had agreed to cluster Schools and Vice-Deaneries into 3 Faculties and that we can work from these structures to develop safety sub-committees.

The Vice-Provost and the College Safety Officer will meet the Senior Lecturer to progress the setting up of sub-committees in academic areas and will report back to the next meeting of the committee scheduled for February 27th 2007.

SA/ 06-07/12 Any Other Business

As there was no other business raised the meeting then concluded.

Signed _____
Vice-Provost

Date _____